

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I would like to ask the distinguished chairman several questions about this bill.

Mr. Speaker, my understanding is this is to parallel the Congressional Accountability Act, and I know that the House has decided not to allow unions for legislative employees. What are we doing in this bill then vis-a-vis executive branch employees?

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Speaker, if the gentlewoman will yield, my understanding is this bill tracks the Congressional Accountability Act. I am advised there is no provision in this bill with regard to union representation.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I thank the gentleman for that. The second question I have is about the inspector general. There were folks saying that the inspector general in the White House is given more authority than the inspector general has under the congressional accountability laws.

Mr. CLINGER. If the gentlewoman would yield further, I would advise the gentlewoman that the provision with regard to inspector general, as well as the provision with regard to chief financial officer which were included in the House-passed version of the bill, were stricken by the Senate and are not included in this unanimous-consent request.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. I see. So basically this is as close a mirror to what the Congressional Accountability Act was, and the areas that we have blocked by just not implementing them, would the White House be allowed to do the same?

Mr. CLINGER. I am sorry, would the gentlewoman repeat the question?

Mrs. SCHROEDER. As the gentleman knows, there have been parts of the Congressional Accountability Act that we have not implemented fully here. Would the White House be allowed that same leeway, to not implement in the areas where the House is not implementing?

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Speaker, if the gentlewoman would yield further, as I would suggest to the gentlewoman, I think since the act is designed to track the congressional version, obviously if portions of it have not been implemented in the House, they would be deferred in the executive branch as well.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I thank the gentleman. I am one of the people who really thinks both should be fully under the laws we pass for other people, but in my entire 24 years here we tend to pass it and then exempt all sorts of things. I want to be sure that we have not done that vis-a-vis ourselves, but turned around and done it to the executive branch. I think we ought to be treating both the same. I think we both ought to get rid of all roadblocks and be under the laws that everybody else is under. What the gentleman is assuring me is that his intent is to treat the executive branch

exactly the same way he has treated us through this House.

Mr. CLINGER. If the gentlewoman would yield further, precisely the same way as we are dealt with here in the House.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the initial request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I think the veterans preference that was passed under the Mica bill is not in this bill we are considering now.

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman would yield, the gentleman is correct. It is not included in this measure.

Mr. MONTGOMERY. The Senate did drop the provisions on the veterans provision.

Mr. CLINGER. The gentleman is correct.

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H.R. 3452, the Presidential and Executive Office Accountability Act, as amended by the other body. The basic principle behind this legislation is that the Federal Government should be subject to the same laws and regulations as the private sector. Congress has already passed the Congressional Accountability Act, and there is no good reason why the Executive Office of the President should not also be subject to the same laws as Congress and the private sector.

The other body has improved this bill by deleting two controversial provisions from the House-passed version—one called for a compliance board and the other for establishing an inspector general in the White House. The compliance board would have been unnecessary and overly bureaucratic, as White House employees already have recourse to the Merit Systems Protection Board. The provision establishing an inspector general in the White House was, in my view, costly, unnecessary, and of dubious constitutionality. I am glad that we will have an opportunity for full and open debate on this issue in the future.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3452 is a good bill, and I want to thank Representative HORN and Chairman CLINGER for their willingness to work with the minority as it made its way through the legislative process.

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

Mr. SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the initial request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the Senate amendments to H.R. 3452.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

BLACK REVOLUTIONARY WAR PATRIOTS COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 1776) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of black Revolutionary War patriots and the 275th anniversary of the first black Revolutionary War patriot, Crispus Attucks, with Senate amendments thereto, and concur in the Senate amendments.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendments, as follows:

Senate amendments:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) *SHORT TITLE.*—This Act may be cited as the "United States Commemorative Coin Act of 1996".

(b) *TABLE OF CONTENTS.*—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. *Short title; table of contents.*

Sec. 2. *Definitions.*

TITLE I—COMMEMORATIVE COIN PROGRAMS

Sec. 101. *Commemorative coin programs.*

Sec. 102. *Design.*

Sec. 103. *Legal tender.*

Sec. 104. *Sources of bullion.*

Sec. 105. *Quality of coins.*

Sec. 106. *Sale of coins.*

Sec. 107. *General waiver of procurement regulations.*

Sec. 108. *Financial assurances.*

TITLE II—NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MEMORIAL MAINTENANCE FUND

Sec. 201. *National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Maintenance Fund.*

TITLE III—STUDY OF FIFTY STATES COMMEMORATIVE COIN PROGRAM

Sec. 301. *Short title.*

Sec. 302. *Study.*

Sec. 303. *Fixed terms for members of the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee.*

Sec. 304. *Mint managerial staffing reform.*

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act—

(1) the term "Fund" means the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Maintenance Fund established under section 201;

(2) the term "recipient organization" means an organization described in section 101 to which surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act are paid; and

(3) the term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Treasury.

TITLE I—COMMEMORATIVE COIN PROGRAMS

SEC. 101. COMMEMORATIVE COIN PROGRAMS.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee, the Secretary shall mint and issue the following coins:

(1) *DOLLEY MADISON.*—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*—In commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the death of Dolley Madison, the Secretary shall mint and issue not more than 500,000 \$1 coins, each of which shall—

(i) weigh 26.73 grams;

(ii) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(iii) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(B) *DESIGN OF COINS.*—The design of the coins minted under this paragraph shall be emblematic of the 150th anniversary of the death of

Dolley Madison and the life and achievements of the wife of the fourth President of the United States.

(C) **MINT FACILITY.**—Only 1 facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this paragraph.

(D) **ISSUANCE OF COINS.**—

(i) **COMMENCEMENT OF ISSUANCE.**—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this paragraph beginning January 1, 1999.

(ii) **TERMINATION OF MINTING AUTHORITY.**—No coins may be minted under this paragraph after December 31, 1999.

(E) **SURCHARGES.**—All sales of the coins issued under this paragraph shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin.

(F) **DISTRIBUTION OF SURCHARGES.**—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code (as added by section 301(b) of this Act), all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this paragraph shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the National Trust for Historic Preservation in the United States (hereafter in this paragraph referred to as the "National Trust") to be used—

(i) to establish an endowment to be a permanent source of support for Montpelier, the home of James and Dolley Madison and a museum property of the National Trust; and

(ii) to fund capital restoration projects at Montpelier.

(2) **GEORGE WASHINGTON.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall mint and issue not more than 100,000 \$5 coins, each of which shall—

(i) weigh 8.359 grams;

(ii) have a diameter of 0.850 inches; and

(iii) contain 90 percent gold and 10 percent alloy.

(B) **DESIGN OF COINS.**—The design of the coins minted under this paragraph shall be emblematic of George Washington, the first President of the United States.

(C) **MINT FACILITY.**—Only 1 facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this paragraph.

(D) **ISSUANCE OF COINS.**—

(i) **COMMENCEMENT OF ISSUANCE.**—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this paragraph beginning May 1, 1999.

(ii) **TERMINATION OF MINTING AUTHORITY.**—No coins may be minted under this paragraph after November 31, 1999.

(E) **SURCHARGES.**—All sales of coins minted under this paragraph shall include a surcharge of \$35 per coin.

(F) **DISTRIBUTION OF SURCHARGES.**—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code (as added by section 301(b) of this Act), all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this paragraph shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association (hereafter in this paragraph referred to as the "Association") to be used—

(i) to supplement the Association's endowment for the purpose of providing a permanent source of support for the preservation of George Washington's home; and

(ii) to provide financial support for the continuation and expansion of the Association's efforts to educate the American people about the life of George Washington.

(3) **BLACK REVOLUTIONARY WAR PATRIOTS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—In commemoration of Black Revolutionary War patriots and the 275th anniversary of the birth of the first Black Revolutionary War patriot, Crispus Attucks, who was the first American colonist killed by British troops during the Revolutionary period, the Secretary shall mint and issue not more than 500,000 \$1 coins, each of which shall—

(i) weigh 26.73 grams;

(ii) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(iii) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(B) **DESIGN OF COINS.**—The design of the coins minted under this paragraph—

(i) on the obverse side of the coins, shall be emblematic of the first Black Revolutionary War patriot, Crispus Attucks; and

(ii) on the reverse side of such coins, shall be emblematic of the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial.

(C) **MINT FACILITY.**—Only 1 facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this paragraph.

(D) **ISSUANCE OF COINS.**—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this paragraph only during the period beginning on January 1, 1998, and ending on December 31, 1998.

(E) **SURCHARGES.**—All sales of coins issued under this paragraph shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin.

(F) **DISTRIBUTION OF SURCHARGES.**—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code (as added by section 301(b) of this Act), all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this paragraph shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Foundation for the purpose of establishing an endowment to support the construction of a Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial.

(4) **FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—To commemorate the public opening of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial in Washington, D.C., which will honor President Roosevelt's leadership and legacy, during a 1-year period beginning on or after May 15, 1997, the Secretary shall issue not more than 100,000 \$5 coins, each of which shall—

(i) weigh 8.359 grams;

(ii) have a diameter of 0.850 inches; and

(iii) contain 90 percent gold and 10 percent alloy.

(B) **MINT FACILITY.**—Only 1 facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this paragraph.

(C) **SURCHARGES.**—All sales of the coins issued under this paragraph shall include a surcharge of \$35 per coin.

(D) **DISTRIBUTION OF SURCHARGES.**—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code (as added by section 301(b) of this Act), all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this paragraph shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Commission.

(5) **YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—To commemorate the 125th anniversary of the establishment of Yellowstone National Park as the first national park in the United States, and the birth of the national park idea, during a 1-year period beginning in 1999, the Secretary shall issue not more than 500,000 \$1 coins, each of which shall—

(i) weigh 26.73 grams;

(ii) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(iii) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent alloy.

(B) **MINT FACILITY.**—Only 1 facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this paragraph.

(C) **SURCHARGES.**—All sales of the coins issued under this paragraph shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin.

(D) **DISTRIBUTION OF SURCHARGES.**—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code (as added by section 301(b) of this Act), all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this paragraph shall be promptly paid by the Secretary in accordance with the following:

(i) Fifty percent of the surcharges received shall be paid to the National Park Foundation to be used for the support of national parks.

(ii) Fifty percent of the surcharges received shall be paid to Yellowstone National Park.

(6) **NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MEMORIAL.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—To recognize the sacrifice of law enforcement officers and their families in preserving public safety, during a 1-year period beginning on or after December 15, 1997, the Secretary shall issue not more than 500,000 \$1 coins, each of which shall—

(i) weigh 26.73 grams;

(ii) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(iii) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent alloy.

(B) **MINT FACILITY.**—Only 1 facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this paragraph.

(C) **SURCHARGES.**—All sales of the coins issued under this paragraph shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin.

(D) **DISTRIBUTION OF SURCHARGES.**—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code (as added by section 301(b) of this Act), after receiving surcharges from the sale of the coins issued under this paragraph, the Secretary shall transfer to the Secretary of the Interior an amount equal to the surcharges received from the sale of the coins issued under this paragraph, which amount shall be deposited in the Fund established under section 201.

(7) **JACKIE ROBINSON.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the breaking of the color barrier in major league baseball by Jackie Robinson and the legacy that Jackie Robinson left to society, the Secretary shall mint and issue—

(i) not more than 100,000 \$5 coins, each of which shall—

(I) weigh 8.359 grams;

(II) have a diameter of 0.850 inches; and

(III) contain 90 percent gold and 10 percent alloy; and

(ii) not more than 200,000 \$1 coins, each of which shall—

(I) weigh 26.73 grams;

(II) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(III) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(B) **DESIGN OF COINS.**—The design of the coins minted under this paragraph shall be emblematic of Jackie Robinson and his contributions to major league baseball and to society.

(C) **MINT FACILITY.**—Only 1 facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this paragraph.

(D) **ISSUANCE OF COINS.**—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this paragraph only during the period beginning on July 1, 1997, and ending on July 1, 1998.

(E) **SURCHARGES.**—All sales of the coins issued under—

(i) subparagraph (A)(i) shall include a surcharge of \$35 per coin; and

(ii) subparagraph (A)(ii) shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin.

(F) **DISTRIBUTION OF SURCHARGES.**—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code (as added by section 301(b) of this Act)—

(i) all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of the initial 100,000 coins issued under subparagraph (A)(i), shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the National Fund for the United States Botanic Garden; and

(ii) all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of any coins issued under this paragraph (other than the coins described in clause (i)) shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Jackie Robinson Foundation for the purposes of—

(I) enhancing the programs of the Jackie Robinson Foundation in the fields of education and youth leadership skills development; and

(II) increasing the availability of scholarships for economically disadvantaged youths.

SEC. 102. DESIGN.

(a) **SELECTION.**—The design for each coin issued under this paragraph shall be—

(1) selected by the Secretary after consultation with the appropriate recipient organization or

organizations and the Commission of Fine Arts; and

(2) reviewed by the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee.

(b) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin issued under this paragraph there shall be—

(1) a designation of the value of the coin;

(2) an inscription of the year; and

(3) inscriptions of the words "Liberty", "In God We Trust", "United States of America", and "E Pluribus Unum".

SEC. 103. LEGAL TENDER.

(a) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins issued under this title shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this title shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 104. SOURCES OF BULLION.

(a) GOLD.—The Secretary shall obtain gold for minting coins under this title pursuant to the authority of the Secretary under other provisions of law.

(b) SILVER.—The Secretary shall obtain silver for minting coins under this title from sources the Secretary determines to be appropriate, including stockpiles established under the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act.

SEC. 105. QUALITY OF COINS.

Each coin minted under this title shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

SEC. 106. SALE OF COINS.

(a) SALE PRICE.—Each coin issued under this title shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

(1) the face value of the coin;

(2) the surcharge provided in section 101 with respect to the coin; and

(3) the cost of designing and issuing the coin (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

(b) PREPAID ORDERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this title before the issuance of such coins.

(2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

SEC. 107. GENERAL WAIVER OF PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS.

Section 5112(j) of title 31, United States Code, shall apply to the procurement of goods or services necessary to carrying out the programs and operations of the United States Mint under this title.

SEC. 108. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.

(a) NO NET COST TO THE GOVERNMENT.—The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that minting and issuing coins under this title will not result in any net cost to the United States Government.

(b) PAYMENT FOR COINS.—A coin shall not be issued under this title unless the Secretary has received—

(1) full payment for the coin;

(2) security satisfactory to the Secretary to indemnify the United States for full payment; or

(3) a guarantee of full payment satisfactory to the Secretary from a depository institution whose deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Administration Board.

TITLE II—NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MEMORIAL MAINTENANCE FUND

SEC. 201. NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MEMORIAL MAINTENANCE FUND.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Maintenance Fund, which shall be a revolving fund administered by the Secretary of the Interior (or the designee of the Secretary of the Interior).

(2) FUNDING.—Amounts in the Fund shall include—

(A) amounts deposited in the Fund under section 101(6); and

(B) any donations received under paragraph (3).

(3) DONATIONS.—The Secretary of the Interior may accept donations to the Fund.

(4) INTEREST-BEARING ACCOUNT.—The Fund shall be maintained in an interest-bearing account within the Treasury of the United States.

(b) PURPOSES.—The Fund shall be used—

(1) for the maintenance and repair of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C.;

(2) to periodically add the names of law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial;

(3) for the security of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial site, including the posting of National Park Service rangers and United States Park Police, as appropriate;

(4) at the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior and in consultation with the Secretary and the Attorney General of the United States, who shall establish an equitable procedure between the Fund and such other organizations as may be appropriate, to provide educational scholarships to the immediate family members of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty whose names appear on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, the total annual amount of such scholarships not to exceed 10 percent of the annual income of the Fund;

(5) for the dissemination of information regarding the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial to the general public;

(6) to administer the Fund, including contracting for necessary services, in an amount not to exceed the lesser of—

(A) 10 percent of the annual income of the Fund; or

(B) \$200,000 during any 1-year period; and

(7) at the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Fund, for appropriate purposes in the event of an emergency affecting the operation of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, except that, during any 1-year period, not more than \$200,000 of the principal of the Fund may be used to carry out this paragraph.

(c) BUDGET AND AUDIT TREATMENT.—The Fund shall be subject to the budget and audit provisions of chapter 91 of title 31, United States Code.

TITLE III—STUDY OF FIFTY STATES COMMEMORATIVE COIN PROGRAM

SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "50 States Commemorative Coin Program Act".

SEC. 302. STUDY.

(a) STUDY.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall by June 1, 1997 complete a study of the feasibility of a circulating commemorative coin program to commemorate each of the 50 States. The study shall assess likely public acceptance of and consumer demand for different coins that might be issued in connection with such a program (taking into consideration the pace of issuance of coins and the length of such a program), a comparison of the costs of producing coins issued under the program and the revenue that the program would generate, the impact on coin distribution systems, the advantages and disadvantages of different approaches to selecting designs for coins in such a program, and such other factors as the Secretary considers appropriate in deciding upon the feasibility of such a program. No steps taken in order to gather information for this study shall be considered a collection of information within the meaning of section 3502 of title 44, United States Code.

(b) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit the study required in subsection (a) above, to the

Committee on Banking and Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs of the Senate, simultaneously on its receipt by the Secretary.

(c) 50-STATE COMMEMORATIVE COIN PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall determine by August 1, 1997 whether the results of the study authorized by subsection (a) justify such a program. If the Secretary determines that such a program is justified, then he shall by January 1, 1999, notwithstanding the fourth sentence of subsection (d)(1) and subsection (d)(2) of section 5112, title 31, United States Code, commence a commemorative coin program consisting of the minting and issuance of quarter dollar coins bearing designs, selected in accordance with paragraph (4) of this subsection, which are emblematic of the 50 States. If the Secretary determines that such a commemorative coin program is justified but that it is not practicable to commence the program by January 1, 1999, then he shall notify the Committee on Banking and Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate of such impracticability and of the date on which the program will commence.

(1) DESIGN.—The design for each quarter dollar issued under the program shall be emblematic of 1 of the 50 States. The designs for quarter dollar coins issued during each year of the program shall be emblematic of States which have not previously been commemorated under the program.

(2) ORDER OF ISSUANCE.—Each State will be honored by a coin in the order of that State's admission to the United States.

(3) NUMBER OF COINS.—Of the quarter dollar coins issued during each year of the program, the Secretary shall prescribe, on the basis of such factors as the Secretary determines to be appropriate, the number of quarter dollar coins which shall be issued with each of the designs selected for such year.

(4) SELECTION OF DESIGN.—Each of the 50 designs required for quarter dollars issued under the program shall be—

(A) selected pursuant to a process, decided upon by the Secretary, on the basis of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (a), which process shall involve, among other things, consultation with appropriate officials of the State being commemorated with such design; and

(B) reviewed by the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee and the Commission of Fine Arts.

(5) TREATMENT AS NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this section shall be considered to be numismatic items.

(6) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—

(A) QUALITY OF COINS.—The Secretary may mint and issue such number of quarter dollars of each design selected under paragraph (4) of this subsection in uncirculated and proof qualities as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(B) SILVER COINS.—Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 5112(b) of title 31, United States Code, the Secretary may mint and issue such number of quarter dollars of each design selected under paragraph (4) of this subsection as the Secretary determines to be appropriate with a content of 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(C) SOURCES OF BULLION.—The Secretary may obtain silver for minting coins under paragraph (6)(B) from stockpiles established under the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act.

(d) FUNDING.—Funds used to complete this study shall be offset from funds from the Department of the Treasury.

SEC. 303. FIXED TERMS FOR MEMBERS OF THE CITIZENS COMMEMORATIVE COIN ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 5135(a)(4) of title 31, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(4) *TERMS.*—

“(A) *IN GENERAL.*—Each individual appointed to the Advisory Committee under clause (i) or (iii) of paragraph (3)(A) shall be appointed for a term of 4 years.

“(B) *INTERIM APPOINTMENTS.*—Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term for which such member's predecessor was appointed shall be appointed only for the remainder of such term.

“(C) *CONTINUATION OF SERVICE.*—Each member appointed under clause (i) or (iii) of paragraph (3)(A) may continue to serve after the expiration of the term to which such member was appointed until a successor has been appointed and qualified.”

(b) *STAGGERED TERMS.*—Of the members appointed to the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee under clause (i) or (iii) of section 5135(a)(3)(A) of title 31, United States Code, who are serving on the Advisory Committee as of the date of the enactment of this Act—

(1) 1 member appointed under clause (i) and 1 member appointed under clause (iii), as designated by the Secretary, shall be deemed to have been appointed to a term which ends on December 31, 1997;

(2) 1 member appointed under clause (i) and 1 member appointed under clause (iii), as designated by the Secretary, shall be deemed to have been appointed to a term which ends on December 31, 1998; and

(3) 1 member appointed under clause (i) and 1 member appointed under clause (iii), as designated by the Secretary, shall be deemed to have been appointed to a term which ends on December 31, 1999.

(c) *STATUS OF MEMBERS.*—The members appointed to the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee under clause (i) or (iii) of section 5135(a)(3)(A) of title 31, United States Code, shall not be treated as special Government employees.

SEC. 304. MINT MANAGERIAL STAFFING REFORM.
Section 5131 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (c); and
(2) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (c).

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the reading). Without objection, the Senate amendments are considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1776, an omnibus commemorative coin act that has been negotiated with the Senate. This bill contains seven surcharged commemorative coin programs and the promise of a new circulating program. For the first time, the taxpayer and the Mint will be insulated from any failure of these programs to sell their authorized mintage amounts. That is because the protections from our earlier reform legislation H.R. 2614, have been signed into law earlier this week.

The beneficiaries of the respective coins are as follows—for 1997: the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, 100,000 \$5 gold coins authorized, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, 500,000 silver dollars authorized, and the Jackie Robinson Foundation, 100,000 \$5 gold coins authorized and 200,000 silver dollars authorized. In 1999, Yellowstone National Park is scheduled to be commemorated, with 500,000 silver \$1 coins authorized.

In addition, we are moving toward the first circulating commemorative coin program since

the bicentennial quarter. Providing a Treasury feasibility study is positive, the program will honor the 50 States of the United States of America by producing a series of circulating quarter dollar coins that commemorate each State in the order that they entered the Union.

The bill also provides coins for the three programs that observed House Banking Committee rules and proceeded through the difficult process of obtaining two thirds co-sponsorship, through hearings, mark-up and passage through this House in regular order. They are: The Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial for 1998, 500,000 silver dollars, the Dolley Madison coin for the benefit of Montpelier in 1999, 500,000 silver dollars, and the George Washington coin to benefit Mount Vernon also in 1999, 100,000 gold \$5 pieces.

This bill protects the taxpayer from the abuses common to many earlier coin programs and still benefits these most worthy causes.

I urge its immediate adoption.

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of the Senate amendments to H.R. 1776. Included in them is a bill I introduced with Congressman FLOYD FLAKE which would commemorate the 50th anniversary of Jackie Robinson's breaking the color barrier in major league baseball. Our bill, entitled the “Jackie Robinson Commemorative Coin Act” (H.R. 4148) currently has 158 cosponsors.

Our bill would authorize the minting of \$1 coins to commemorate this important event in American history. Sales of the coin would benefit the Jackie Robinson Foundation, which provides college scholarships to hundreds of underprivileged students. An important feature of this bill is that it requires the Treasury Department to recover its full costs before any funds go to the Foundation.

Jackie Robinson was a great and courageous American. Many Americans today would be unable to comprehend the virulent racism Jackie Robinson experienced when he became America's first African-American major league baseball player.

It is truly amazing that any human being could have withstood the endless abuse and degrading racial epithets that were hurled at Jackie Robinson during the 1947 baseball season. Yet, he never let racial slurs get the best of him. Instead, Jackie Robinson conducted himself with the utmost grace and dignity. On the field, he proved to his detractors that the color of one's skin is irrelevant to one's athletic ability.

In fact, he was such an incredible ballplayer that he won the Rookie of the Year award that year.

Mr. Speaker, Jackie Robinson was a talented hitter and fielder, but to many, his athletic prowess was most apparent as a base runner. He led the National League in stolen bases in 1947 and 1949. Perhaps his most exciting play was stealing home. As any baseball fan knows, stealing home is one of the most difficult plays in baseball to execute—yet it was Jackie Robinson's specialty.

I remember watching old newsreels of Brooklyn Dodger games and seeing Jackie on third base, with a big lead, taunting the pitcher. Then he would explode down the base path in a flash and slide into home before the catcher could apply the tag. No play in baseball is more exciting to watch.

Of course, stealing home, like being the first black major league ball player, take guts, su-

preme confidence, and a steely determination—qualities Jackie Robinson had both on and off the field.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1776, an omnibus commemorative coin act that has been negotiated with the Senate. This bill contains seven surcharged coin programs that, as usual, benefit worthy causes. I still believe that there are too many coin programs being ordered to be minted in 1997 for them all to be successful. However, for the first time, the taxpayer and the mint will be insulated from any failure of these programs to sell their authorized mintage amounts. That is because the protections from our reform legislation H.R. 2614, have been signed into law earlier this week.

The beneficiaries of the respective coins are as follows—for 1997: the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, 100,000 \$5 gold coins authorized, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, 500,000 silver dollars authorized, and the Jackie Robinson Foundation, 100,000 \$5 gold coins authorized and 200,000 silver dollars authorized. In 1999 Yellowstone National Park will be commemorated, 500,000 silver coins authorized. Under the Commemorative Coin Reform Act signed into law on September 30, 1996, only two programs per year are permitted. Early in the 105th Congress we will address this conflict in a mutually agreeable fashion.

The bill also includes something for the collectors who support all of these programs by actually purchasing the resulting coins. Beginning after 1999, mintages will be limited and as stated, only two programs per year will be permitted. In addition, we are moving toward the first circulating commemorative coin program since the bicentennial quarter. Providing a Treasury feasibility study is positive, the program will honor the 50 States of the United States of America by producing a series of circulating quarter dollar coins that commemorate each State in the order that they entered the Union.

Each year, until every State has been honored, five unique designs, each representing an individual State, will be issued at intervals of about 2 months. The completed set will represent the diverse history and culture of the States of the Union.

There will be no private surcharges added to the cost of these coins. Nevertheless, the estimated earnings from the silver coins alone is over \$100 million over the course of the program. This sum is scorable for budgetary purposes.

The mint's production schedule is demand driven. Increased production, estimated for this circulating commemorative program at an additional 50 percent over baseline projections, will produce anticipated earnings on the order of over \$3 billion for the total program. By Congressional Budget Office scoring convention, these earnings are off-budget and thus are not available to be spent by Congress. Instead, they will be applied directly to replace borrowing otherwise necessary to fund the national debt, saving taxpayers over \$1 billion in interest payments over the first 10 years of the program.

The bill also provides coins for the three programs that observed House Banking Committee rules and proceeded through the difficult process of obtaining two-thirds cosponsorship, through hearings, markup and passage through this House in regular order.

They are: The Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial for 1998, 500,000 silver dollars, the Dolley Madison coin for the benefit of Montpelier in 1999, 500,000 silver dollars, and the George Washington coin to benefit Mount Vernon also in 1999, 100,000 gold \$5 pieces.

Among its other virtues, this program will introduce a younger and more diverse population to the fascinating hobby of coin collecting. This bill will also protect the taxpayer from the abuses common to many earlier coin programs and still benefit a number of worthy causes.

I urge its immediate adoption.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the initial request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION AIRCRAFT TRANSFER ACT OF 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate bill (S. 2078) to authorize the sale of excess Department of Defense aircraft to facilitate the suppression of wildfire, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I wanted to thank them for bringing this up. I know the gentleman from New Mexico [Mr. RICHARDSON] has worked terribly hard on this. For those of us who live in the West, where forest fires are so eminent, this is essential, because it gets us the airplanes we need to fight those wildfires. So I thank the gentleman from New York, and we thank the Congress for getting this here. Hopefully we will not have any wildfires. If we do, we had better be ready for them. I thank the gentleman very much, for the gentleman from New Mexico.

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in strong support of the Wildfire Suppression Aircraft Transfer Act of 1996, a bipartisan bill that I introduced in the House and Senator BINGAMAN introduced in the Senate.

This bill authorizes the Department of Defense to sell excess military aircraft to private contractors that provide fire fighting services to the Federal Government.

The powerful wildfires that spread throughout the West this past year have highlighted the need for an improved, modernized and expanded fleet of airtankers to help the U.S. Forest Service and the Department of Interior to fight wildfires.

The current fleet of World War II and Korean War vintage aircraft needs to be replaced with modern, turbine powered aircraft that are more efficient and safe.

The only reliable source of these aircraft is excess military aircraft available from the Department of Defense that can be converted to deliver fire retardant.

This legislation would provide the authority to the Secretary of Defense to sell appropriate aircraft to qualified airtanker operators solely for use in fighting wildfires.

In New Mexico, many communities were threatened by wildfires this past summer including the community of Lama. The wildfires were burning on very steep slopes, with high fuel loads, strong wind gusts and unseasonably hot and dry weather.

For this reason, the firefighters need as much assistance as possible. By upgrading our airtanker fleets, we will have a better chance of protecting and saving our lives, property, and forests.

Because of the nearly 150,000 acres of forest and grasslands that were burned when wildfires ravaged New Mexico, and the many more wildfires that burned throughout the West this past year, it is essential that we give firefighters the necessary tools that they need. This bill provides the necessary equipment to assist firefighters.

I want to thank Senator BINGAMAN for all his hard work on this legislation, and I also want to thank the Members on both sides of the aisle who worked to pass this important piece of legislation.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate bill, as follows:

S. 2078

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION. 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Wildfire Suppression Aircraft Transfer Act of 1996".

SEC. 2. AUTHORITY TO SELL AIRCRAFT AND PARTS FOR WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION PURPOSES.

(a) AUTHORITY.—(1) Notwithstanding section 202 of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 483) and subject to subsections (b) and (c), the Secretary of Defense may, during the period beginning on October 1, 1996, and ending on September 30, 2000, sell the aircraft and aircraft parts referred to in paragraph (2) to persons or entities that contract with the Federal Government for the delivery of fire retardant by air in order to suppress wildfire.

(2) Paragraph (1) applies to aircraft and aircraft parts of the Department of Defense that are determined by the Secretary to be—

(A) excess to the needs of the Department; and

(B) acceptable for commercial sale.

(b) CONDITIONS OF SALE.—Aircraft and aircraft parts sold under subsection (a)—

(1) may be used only for the provision of airtanker services for wildfire suppression purposes; and

(2) may not be flown or otherwise removed from the United States unless dispatched by the National Interagency Fire Center in support of an international agreement to assist in wildfire suppression efforts or for other purposes jointly approved by the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Agriculture in writing in advance.

(c) CERTIFICATION OF PERSONS AND ENTITIES.—The Secretary of Defense may sell aircraft and aircraft parts to a person or entity under subsection (a) only if the Secretary of Agriculture certifies to the Secretary of De-

fense, in writing, before the sale that the person or entity is capable of meeting the terms and conditions of a contract to deliver fire retardant by air.

(d) REGULATIONS.—(1) As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Administrator of General Services, prescribe regulations relating to the sale of aircraft and aircraft parts under this section.

(2) The regulations shall—

(A) ensure that the sale of the aircraft and aircraft parts is made at fair market value (as determined by the Secretary of Defense) and, to the extent practicable, on a competitive basis;

(B) require a certification by the purchaser that the aircraft and aircraft parts will be used only in accordance with the conditions set forth in subsection (b);

(C) establish appropriate means of verifying and enforcing the use of the aircraft and aircraft parts by the purchaser and other end users in accordance with the conditions set forth in subsections (b) and (e); and

(D) ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that the Secretary consults with the Administrator of General Services and with the heads of appropriate departments and agencies of the Federal Government regarding alternative requirements for such aircraft and aircraft parts under this section.

(e) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary of Defense may require such other terms and conditions in connection with each sale of aircraft and aircraft parts under this section as the Secretary considers appropriate for such sale. Such terms and conditions shall meet the requirements of the regulations prescribed under subsection (d).

(f) REPORT.—Not later than March 31, 2000, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on National Security of the House of Representatives a report on the Secretary's exercise of authority under this section. The report shall set forth—

(1) the number and type of aircraft sold under the authority, and the terms and conditions under which the aircraft were sold;

(2) the persons or entities to which the aircraft were sold; and

(3) an accounting of the current use of the aircraft sold.

(g) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed as affecting the authority of the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration under any other provision of law.

The Senate bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MARINE MINERAL RESOURCES RESEARCH ACT OF 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate bill (S. 1194) to promote the research, identification, assessment, and exploration of marine mineral resources, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.